

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 20, 21, and 23 through 26 are pending, with Claims 20, 25, and 26 being independent. Claims 20, 25, and 26 have been amended.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended in granting and conducting on March 6, 2007, a personal interview with Applicants' representative. At the interview, Applicants' representative and the Examiner discussed the outstanding rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, and 35 U.S.C. § 103, which are respectfully traversed, as well as proposed amendments to the claims. Applicants understand that the Examiner is in tentative agreement that the proposed amendments appear to overcome the rejections, and the claims have been so amended.

Separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

This Amendment After Final Rejection is an earnest attempt to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, and is believed to clearly place this application in condition for allowance. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that a full appreciation of these amendments will not require undue time or effort given the Examiner's familiarity with this application. Moreover, this Amendment was not earlier presented because Applicants earnestly believed that the prior Amendment placed the subject application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 is respectfully requested.

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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